



Southern Shrimp Alliance, Inc.

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The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

As you know, there is a matter before the Commission that involves Mobile Satellite Service (MSS). This MSS technology will allow mobile satellite-cell phones to receive a signal from a cell tower and a satellite. As Executive Director of the Southern Shrimp Alliance (SSA), an organization that has 2,500 members throughout eight states, I want the Commission to know that the SSA supports this technology and those companies who can quickly market this technology. Therefore, we support allocating 20 MHz of 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a pro rata basis to TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc., and ICO Satellite Services.

MSS will virtually eliminate "dead zones," which is very important for shrimp boats and their crews who are away from cell networks. It is critical that we have a reliable communications network. MSS would provide a new, critical life link for our offshore operations.

Many of our members recently experienced Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and know the value of having reliable communications equipment. I understand that MSS will be a back up communications system in the event of another disaster. This is important in not only saving lives, but for restoring communities and getting people back to work.

I urge the Commission to make its determination on this spectrum in the near future. The SSA strongly supports the allocation of this spectrum on a "2x10" basis to TerreStar and ICO. Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

John Williams

cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Secretary of the Commission

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